

BOOK REVIEW:
WINTER KEYS TO WOODY PLANTS OF MAINE¹

When one is faced with the task of teaching a field oriented course in introductory taxonomy in the more northern regions of this continent one must, of necessity, give due consideration to those plants that are available during the winter season — our woody vascular plants. I enthusiastically welcome this excellent field manual for the identification of woody plants in winter condition. The authors of this carefully constructed, excellently illustrated work have succeeded in providing a thorough treatment of the woody plants of Maine, native, naturalized and adventive, with nearly 250 species included. The work goes beyond the “clearly” woody species and provides a means for identifying such marginally woody species as *Arceuthobium pusillum*, *Mitchella repens*, *Potentilla tridentata*, *Aralia hispida*, *A. nudicaulis* and *Decodon verticillatus*. The keys are well constructed, strictly dichotomous, and usually employ a minimum of 2-3 characters per lead. Frequently additional information regarding persistent fruits or vegetative features is provided in the leads to further facilitate the identification process. Habitat data are also incorporated in keys where helpful. The value of the manual is greatly enhanced by the superb set of plates of original line drawings, made from fresh material. In addition to drawings of twigs and of critical leaf scar or bud features, the illustrator has provided drawings of leaves and fruits of certain species in which they are frequently found persistent. It is no understatement when the authors claim it to be fully illustrated.

The manual is organized into a “Key to Genera and Aber-rant Species” followed by a “Key to Species” with genera

¹Campbell, Christopher S. and Fay Hyland. 1975. Winter Keys to Woody Plants of Maine. Illustrated by Mary L. F. Campbell. University of Maine Press, Orono, Maine. 52 pp + 63 plates. \$3.00. Available from: Secretary, Department of Botany, Deering Hall, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04473.

arranged alphabetically. Additional notes are included at the end of each set of keys providing information regarding infraspecific taxa. Nomenclature follows Fernald, *Gray's Manual of Botany* edition 8. A clear, concise and complete glossary is also provided. The very thorough index not only includes the scientific name, but also lists every conceivable combination of common names (e.g., *Pyrus americana*; American Mountain Ash; Ash, American Mountain; Mountain Ash, American). The back inside cover provides a map of the counties of Maine and a metric-English scale.

The publication is appropriately dedicated to the memory of Professor Merritt Lyndon Fernald, whose long term interest in the plants of New England and northeastern North America found its stimulus in the plants of his boyhood haunts in the vicinity of Orono, Maine. This fine piece of work should be of interest and value to students, amateur and professional botanists, ecologists, horticulturalists, foresters and naturalists of not only Maine, but of her adjacent states and provinces. At \$3.00, this is a welcome bargain.

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